



Insist On Parliamentary Control

Acheson Urges Aid for Starving India



The critical plight of her famine-stricken nation is under discussion by India's Ambassador Mre. Vijaya L. Pandit with secretary of state Dean Acheson in Washington, D.C. The latter has urged Congress to forget political differences and provide India with 2,000,000 bushels of wheat to help feed her starving people. (CPA).

CCF Gets Assurance From House

OTTAWA (CPA).—A C.C.F. victory in the House of Commons aroused some desk-pounding from all parties on March 1. The determination of Stanley Knowles (C.C.F. Winnipeg North Centre) that the will of parliament should be protected in respect to emergency powers legislation, won a definite undertaking from the government to that effect.



Just as important to Stanley Knowles as the imposition of price controls immediately under the government's new emergency powers legislation, is the safeguard that the government's new authority shall at all times be subject to the will of parliament.

Wants Price Control

The bill to permit such orders-in-council as may be necessary to control various phases of the economy under the strain of the defence program, was discussed in committee on March 1. First of all, Mr. Knowles said, we want price controls instituted under the new measure. "The cost of living is still going up, and people are literally getting frantic over this problem."

But before assenting to the bill as it stood, Mr. Knowles had a point to make about the necessity of parliamentary control over any such orders passed by the governor-in-council. He believed it vitally necessary that any such order be subject to annulment if desired by the majority will of the House. "We have got to retain in the hands of parliament as much power as is needed to annul these orders if parliament should wish to do so," Mr. Knowles said.

The Winnipeg member said that under present procedure an order-in-council becomes the law of the land. (Continued on Page 2)

New Norwegian Vice-Consul



KNUT SIVERTSEN,

who has long been associated with the Edmonton C.C.F., has been named Norwegian vice-consul for Alberta. Born in Norway, Mr. Sivertsen has lived in Canada since 1917. In business in Edmonton for 20 years, he retired as manager of the Drew Machinery Company in 1948. He has been very active in community life in the city having been president of the Parkallen Community League for four years and was treasurer of the Edmonton Ski Club for 10 years. Active in the Sons of Norway Lodge in Edmonton, he did much valuable work for Norwegian Relief during World War II. At present he is the president of the local lodge, Solgylt No. 143, Sons of Norway. He was a delegate to the Sons of Norway 4th District convention at Minot, North Dakota last year. There he was elected vice-president of District No. 4, and also as a representative to the Supreme Lodge convention in New York later in the year.

Liesemer Asks Fair Labor Deal

Calling upon the government to make some urgently needed amendments to labor legislation, A. J. E. Liesemer speaking in the Throne Speech debate in the Alberta legislature, said it was incumbent upon the government to do something to rectify the situation due to increased prices. He pointed out that the government had "opposed that measure of socialism which would have maintained price controls and thereby removed the need for opening legislation dealing with wages every year."

He called upon the government to take effective action this session on the following measures:

8-Point Program

(1) Pressure on the federal government to reinstitute at once (Continued on page 6)

Press For Public Electric Power

C.C.F. members of the Alberta Legislature made their annual attempt to get the government to establish a provincial power system under public ownership with a greater extension of rural electrification as the chief objective. Messrs Roper and Liesemer moved a resolution to this effect in the House last week.

In speaking to the motion Mr. Roper said it had been moved for the purpose of keeping the issue alive in the legislature and in the province. It had been demonstrated throughout the world, he contended, that only through a central, publicly-owned power system could rural electrification be provided on an extensive scale.

Quoting directly from a letter he had received from the Min- (Continued on Page 6)



PERSONAL STUFF

BY E. E. R.

General MacArthur said something the other day which must have been in the minds of most thinking people on both sides of the curtain—that the Korean conflict is heading into a stalemate. Nobody can win. That is, of course, true of all modern warfare. It is particularly true of "Operation Killer." MacArthur may be wrong in one respect. The Chinese may eventually muster enough overwhelming manpower to drive the U.N. forces off the peninsula. But surely no one is foolish enough to think that that would be the end. It might well be the beginning of something worse. So what's to be the outcome? Just continued slaughter for an indefinite number of weeks or months? It is too bad the discussion of "cease fire" took place when it did. At that time the Chinese leaders were deluded into believing that the U.N. troops were really running out of Korea. "They just run and run!" the Communist propagandists told the Chinese people, and the Stalin stooges everywhere repeated the joke and laughed and laughed. But it is different now. It must be as evident to the Chinese as to everyone else that to repel the U.N. forces from Korea will be a crushingly costly operation, if it can be accomplished at all. It was, as Mrs. Dorothy Steeves, writing in the C.C.F. News, Vancouver, said recently, "a ghastly (Continued on page 8)

Cost Of Living Takes Another Jump

OTTAWA (CPA).—The cost of living index rose from 172.5, to 175.2, between January 2 and February 1, it was revealed by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics on March 3. A rise of three whole points in one month is a record jump which has been equalled only twice before in Canadian history.

Again, the rise is due to increased prices of food, clothing and home furnishings. The index figure at February 1 this year was nearly fourteen points above the index for the same date last year, when it stood at 161.6.

Criticize Defence Production Plan

OTTAWA (CPA) When the Prime Minister moved his resolution to set up the new department of Defence Production, he made no reference to the need for decentralization of defence industry, no reference to the need to avoid profiteering, and no reference to the dangers of patronage in a defence program.

Mr. St. Laurent was immediately taken to task by five opposition speakers, three of whom were C.C.F. M.P.s, Noseworthy, Thatcher and Knowles.

At Bargain Prices

Mr. Noseworthy criticized the government for having disposed of many properties which had been used in the recent war to house service personnel who were now unable to find adequate accommodation. He gave figures to show

Labor Condemns Gerhart's Stand

Strongly condemning the suggestion of the Minister of Municipal Affairs, Hon. C. E. Gerhart, that all employees should be tagged and finger-printed as a security safeguard, a mass meeting of Edmonton packinghouse workers last week-end, unanimously passed a resolution of protest to be forwarded to the Minister. (Continued on page 6).

Liberals Under Fire On The Wheat Issue

"Provincial Affairs" Talk By Roper, 26th

Provincial Leader Elmer E. Roper, M.L.A., will be the speaker in the "Provincial Affairs" broadcast series on Monday, March 26, at 6:45 p.m. The broadcast will be released by CFRN, CFBN and CHAT. Mark the date up on your calendar now as there will not be another issue of the People's Weekly prior to the broadcast.

OTTAWA (CPA).—While Canadian wheat farmers are passing from hand to hand a petition demanding a 25-cent final payment on the five-year wheat pool, the wheat battle is getting hotter in parliament hall.

On March 8, Trade Minister Howe brought in some proposed amendments to the Canadian Wheat Board Act, but as soon as the Minister mentioned wheat, the House was off on its Anglo-Canadian wheat export battle, and nobody discussed the amendments. (Continued on page 8)

Calgary Women Send \$68 To P.W.

"Friends of the People's Weekly" are scattered all over the province judging by returns coming into the business office. Honors this week go to the Women's Council of the Calgary C.C.F. which has made a donation of \$68 to help sustain the paper. Our grateful thanks to that splendid group of Calgary women who are ever ready to meet any emergency that may arise in the movement.

While the larger contributions are welcomed and needed, smaller donations by individuals are equally appreciated. If you would like to help keep the paper going, turn to page 5, and fill out the "Friends of the People's Weekly" form.

Backstage with Jimmy

By DONALD C. MacDONALD

WHEN Jimmy Gardiner gets cornered, you can count on some spectacular maneuvering. But Jimmy has really excelled himself during past weeks in politicking that finally extricated the Prime Minister's announcement that the federal government would contribute \$65 million, toward final payment of just over 8 cents per bushel, on deliveries on the five-year (1946-1949) wheat pool.

Few announcements have ever been greeted with more concerted dissatisfaction and embarrassment. The farmers are bitterly disappointed; they had sought 25 cents. The Cabinet is split; Mr. Howe is so incensed that he can't hide it in public. Business interests have taken time out from their scramble for defence contracts to raise an hypocritical cry about gouging the public treasury. And so on and so on. This collective red-faces—red from rage or embarrassment—have set up such a glow on Parliament Hill that it can be seen from afar.

But the most shocking aspect of the whole business has been the elaborate efforts on the part of some members of the cabinet to save political face by charging the British Government with welching on obligations in connection with the "have regard to" clause in the Anglo-Canadian Wheat Agreement—obligations which Mr. Howe acknowledged, a year ago had been met.

Sparking in the House of Commons (June 5, 1950; Hansard, p. 3221) following his negotiations in London, Mr. Howe said this: "We asked the United Kingdom Government what further settlement it is to make on account of the 'have regard to' clause. The United Kingdom Government took a very strong position that they had fulfilled all obligations under that clause, and so far as the United Kingdom was concerned we agreed on behalf of Canada that, considering all the circumstances that was the case."

Significant

There are two very significant parts to that statement. First, by his phrase, "so far as the United Kingdom is concerned," Mr. Howe was implying that while no further obligation rested on the U.K., there was an obligation on someone else for further payment. Obviously, the federal government is the only other source from which that payment can be made. And the farmers claim, quite rightly, that the federal government should make it.

Federal Treasury Responsible. They base their claim on three points. During four years of the pool they sold their wheat under the government contract with Britain below world prices. Second, they had a specific commitment from the Agricultural Minister given on August 15, 1946 (Hansard, p. 4595), in answer to a question from Mr. Coldwell, that if the farmers' costs of production continued to rise, a compensatory adjustment would be made at the end of the five-year pool out of an appropriation comparable to the \$200 million revolving fund set up under the Agricultural Prices Support Act. Finally, wheat was marketed domestically at \$1.25, so that the western producer was in

effect subsidizing the Canadian consumer to an amount of \$49 millions. In justice such a subsidy should be met by all Canadians, from the federal treasury, rather than out of the pockets of one group, the producers.

The second significant part of Mr. Howe's statement was his assertion that "considering all the circumstances," Britain had met her obligations. What were some of these circumstances? Not only that Britain had agreed to a negotiated price of \$2 for the final two years of the contract, having regard to the world price, but further, that Mr. Howe had persuaded the United Kingdom, as part of her outstanding obligation to Canada, to take 120 million bushels for 1951-52 delivery. This figure of 120 millions compared with their purchase of an average of only 90 millions per year over the previous ten years.

Notwithstanding all this, we now have the political shenanigans of the Honourable James, a story in themselves. Jimmy was left with no alternative, but to try to convince the Canadian cabinet that they should make the final payment to western farmers. With a cabinet so much out of sympathy with farm interests, that wasn't simple.

Bright Ideal

But Jimmy had a bright idea. There were still outstanding some \$65 million in the credit which Canada made available to Britain back in her dollar shortage days. Wouldn't it be a simple business, argued Jimmy, to have the British Government agree to assign these \$65 millions unclaimed credit as final payment under the "have regard to" clause. It wouldn't be money out of their pockets; in reality the Canadian treasury would be paying it. But it would

look as though the British were paying, and Jimmy would be saving his political face by pulling a fast one on the Canadian public.

Took Easy Way Out

Well, reliable reports have it that when Jimmy raised this proposal with the Cabinet, a terrific storm broke. Mr. Howe opposed it, partly because he had made the agreement with the U.K. relieving them of any further obligation, partly because he's opposed to any further payments to the farmers. But the cabinet was so badly split

that they took the easy way out and agreed to the Agricultural Minister visiting London to try to extract more from the British Government.

So off flew Jimmy to London—all very mysteriously at the time, with no press ballyhoo. But while he was over the Atlantic, the British Government (having been tipped off on what was coming) casually announced that it was not going to claim any more of its outstanding credit from Canada.



Rt.-Hon. Jas. G. Gardiner

Jimmy had, his answer before he arrived.

The rest of the story is well known. Hon. James had to re-open the highly explosive and embarrassing issue with the cabinet. When the Prime Minister announced their decision to the House of Commons on March 2, he said:

"The government has decided to recommend to parliament that an amount equal to the balance of the United Kingdom credit, namely, \$65 million, be added to the sums now awaiting distribution for the five-year pool."

Political-Fiscal Mess

There was absolutely no reason for relating the payment to the unclaimed credit to Britain—except that faced with a sharply divided cabinet, and western Liberal back-benchers fearful that this issue will blow them right out of parliament, Mr. St. Laurent was lending credence to the Gardiner argument that the British Government is to blame.

"The government," stated the Financial Post (March 3) "faces the nastiest political-fiscal mess in its history."

CCF Gets

(Continued from page 1)

land without any specific vote in the House of Commons. He declared that these were not ordinary powers the government was seeking, and "special efforts should be made to make sure that if there is any substantial body of objection to it, full opportunity is provided for that objection to be expressed and for votes of the House of Commons and the other place (Senate) to be taken."

The C.C.F. member wanted a sentence added to the Bill specifically stating that such motions of objection can be considered by the House of Commons or by the Senate after 48 hours' notice. Mr. Knowles did not want the usual procedure affecting private members' motions to apply in this case. Such motions, he pointed out, go to the bottom of the list of business, and may or may not be called for discussion, according to the feeling of the government. Mr. Knowles pointed out that private members' days were suspended during the last war, and had been indifferently observed ever since. Private motions may be discussed; or, if they appear too late in the session, may be passed over in favor of government business.

Too Important

Emergency powers such as the government may seek in future

are too important, Mr. Knowles held, to be subject to challenge only in the ordinary way of a private motion which may never come to a vote. He demanded that the government make specific provision for permitting debate on any motion of objection within forty-eight hours of notice being given.

Mr. Knowles' persistence won his case. The Prime Minister gave a "categorical undertaking that should such a motion of objection ever be made, it would be discussed within that time, and that if for some reason the House did not give its consent to discuss it in the usual way, he would place a government motion on the order paper for discussion of that motion immediately."

The Prime Minister's accession to Mr. Knowles' demand won a round of applause from all sides of the House.

Now, say Mr. Knowles and his C.C.F. colleagues, let's get on with the emergency powers. Let's have price control now!

LABOR DIRECTORY

Look Here for Information Regarding Officers, Meetings, etc., of Trade Unions and Other Labor Organizations in the Province. EDMONTON

Carpenters & Joiners of America Local 1325, Edmonton, Alta., United Brotherhood of—Meets 1st and 3rd Fridays in the Labor Temple, President G. T. Greenough, 11422 92 Street; Fin. Sec. L. D. Pollard, 2318 101A Ave.; Treasurer, J. A. S. Smith, 11832 90A Street; Business Agent, J. P. Cragg, Phone 21766, Labor Hall.

FIRE FIGHTERS, No. 209, INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF—Meets in No. 2 Fire Hall, President A. J. G. Lauder, 14509 - 101 Ave., Sec.-Treas., J. Graham, 11947 - 92 St., Edmonton.

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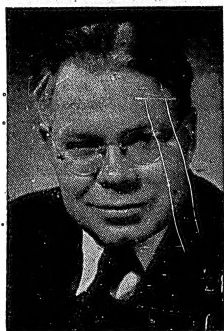
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Packingshouse Speaker



FRED DOWLING
National Director, United Packinghouse Workers of America.

Union, Stronger Better Than Ever

Reporting on "the condition of the union," Fred Dowling, National Director, speaking at a mass meeting in Edmonton on Sunday afternoon, said the Packinghouse Workers of America was "stronger, bigger and better than the previous year."

The meeting was under the auspices of the Packinghouse Workers Joint Council with Jack Hendrick as chairman. Norman Riches, Western Director, introduced the speaker. Other officers on the platform included W. Bernier, W. Fletcher and Stan Solomonson.

The Packinghouse Workers or-

ganization, said Mr. Dowling, was one of the few really national unions in Canada having locals in every province in Canada and leaving the imprint of its influence in many communities.

He explained that some membership had been lost on the prairies because of the lifting of the embargo to the United States as well as the loss of the U.K. bacon contract and decreased livestock production because of rising feed costs. This had all contributed to reduced processing in western plants with resulting reduction in staffs. However, there had been increased membership gains in the east to offset losses in the west.

Hits Quebec Law

The Packinghouse National Director said it was impossible to have a union certified under the Quebec Labor Law, especially since the Asbestos strike which won considerable sympathy for the workers. As an aftermath of this the Catholics syndicates had joined with the two Labor Congresses in making joint representations to the federal government recently. Quebec workers too resented the fact that their government was urging industries to come to that province because of cheap labor conditions and longer hours of work, and altogether the attitude of their government was making Quebec workers more union-conscious.

Flour, Cereal Field

Mr. Dowling said "considerable progress" had been made in organizing the flour and cereal field with two of the biggest flour mills now signed up and others in the process of being organized.

Saturday Work

The union was encountering some trouble in regard to Saturday morning work in some Swift plants. Picket lines had been threatened if the practice continued. Mr. Dowling, explained that American packinghouse executives found it difficult to understand why Canadian workers were more interested in a 5-day week than in a 40-hour week. In the U.S. workers have accepted the practice of the 40-hour week spread over six days. In Canada, where the delivery department is the only one affected, the matter of Saturday work is pretty well left to the local superintendent, he said.

"At the Toronto plant of Canada Packers he said there had been difficulty, over an attempted speed-up on the hog floor following the installation of new modern machinery but he felt it would be settled amicably.

New Machine

Another problem concerning the union was the new machine method of killing beef at the Winnipeg plant of Canada Packers. The firm now maintains it has the new method perfected and eventually he said it would be installed in every plant in Canada. He explained that it would eliminate pretty nearly every skilled man in the beef department. The firm did not propose to cut the rate of any of its present employees but when they retired or left for any reason, they would be replaced by men who would not receive skilled workmen's pay. Within four or five years the new machinery would be available to other packing firms, he stated.

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THE PEOPLE SPEAK

Letters to the editor may be published under a pseudonym, but in each case the name and address of the writer must be forwarded to the editor as evidence of good faith. The People's Weekly takes no responsibility for opinions expressed by correspondents and will not publish any letters exceeding 500 words in length.

NOT THE WAY HE HEARD IT

Editor, People's Weekly.
Sir: In your March 3rd issue Mr. Irvine has somewhat to say about Political Freedom as practiced by the Alberta F.U.A. The way he tells the tale is not the way I heard it. These members were not expelled for visiting the Peace Movement nor for political affiliations. It was because they were alleged to be Communists. The Communist Party is not a political party but a "revolutionary" party believing in violence and bloodshed, or any other means to obtain its ends. Communists may belong to any political party, but that does not prevent them from being Communists with Communists' beliefs.

As to what the British Conservatives may do about their members who attended the Peace Movement, is their concern—not ours. The two instances are not the same at all. All persons who attended the Peace Movement were not Communists. The action taken against the Alberta members of the F.U.A. was solely on account of their Communist activities which were very pronounced. In my opinion we don't want Communists either in the F.U.A. or the C.C.F.

Yours,
HARDY WEAR,

Vermilion.

HITS DEBUNKER'S CRITICS

Editor, People's Weekly.
Sir: I was surprised at the two letters appearing in the current issue of the People's Weekly by Mr. Enright and Mr. Milner in criticism of the column written by Mr. Mentz and known as "De Bunker's" Column. Both letters charge Mr. Mentz with using his column to quote Mr. Enright, in "support of the Communist Party Line," and Mr. Milner refers, by implication, to them as being viciously pro-Moscow and in admiration of Moscow-Communism.

As a regular reader of "De Bunker's" Column I know that their charges were unfounded. However, I took the trouble to turn up what copies of the P.W. that I had for the year 1950 and down to the present date. I read every one of the "De Bunker's" Columns published in twenty-six of them. I was unable to discover a single paragraph in any one of them that even by the stretching of the most prejudiced imagination, could be construed as either a defence or admiration of Moscow-Communism. The one or

two references to Communism that are made are the very reverse. Neither could I find anything that was in any way antagonistic to the principles and policies of the C.C.F. as recorded in our Regina Manifesto or formulated in our conventions.

I therefore appeal to both Mr. Enright and Mr. Milner to please quote the paragraphs appearing in "De Bunker's" Column that will substantiate the charges they have made or implied; and failing to do so, I hope they will have the grace to apologize to Mr. Mentz through the columns of our paper.

On the contrary on re-reading "De Bunker" I found his articles were a sustained and realistic defence of Democratic Socialism and an exposure of some of the absurdities, evils and dangers of capitalism.

Yours,

NORMAN P. FINNEMORE.

9501 - 91 Street,
Edmonton.

PEACE THROUGH NEGOTIATION

Editor, People's Weekly.

Sir: I am first to admit that it is somewhat difficult to arrive at clear-cut decisions as to the policy to pursue in respect to world affairs. However, I must state that I cannot follow the line as advocated by the P.W.; I mean acquiescence of the U.S. line of thought and action. I cannot agree with a statement of E. E. Roper that we need have any fear of loss of freedom by so doing. When university professors and teachers are compelled to submit even their political beliefs to the boards—what would you call that! The bigotry, injustice and intolerance that runs riot unchecked in the deep South certainly belies the lamp of the Statue of Liberty. Let us beware before we become too deeply involved in our admiration of our anti-communist hatreds in the U.S. for there is deep down in American capitalism a latent brutality just as ugly as that of Communist Russia. All it needs to bring it to

the surface is a challenge of its right to complete domination of the lives of its citizens.

The present rearmament plan of the U.S. in America and in western Europe will lead straight to war. Fill the world with armed men and expect peace! Must this state continue forever? Must all our wealth be flung into the lap of wars while we parade our patriotism in a sack cloth? Must these things come to pass just because Communist Russia and capitalistic U.S. strut around with chips on their shoulders! Why should we acquiesce and cover while these two bullies set the world on fire! We as a C.C.F. have become so browbeaten that we have lost any courage we ever did have and it was never very much. Mention the word peace and you are just about stoned to death.

Let us assume that war in its cold state continues, what does it mean for socialism in western Europe? The policing of western Europe assisted by a large German army spells the end of the peaceful evolution of progressive forces there. Is anyone foolish enough to assume that American capitalism holds the solution for western Europe's problems; the natural action would be revolution, and that would certainly touch off the spark of a world conflagration.

There is only one safe course to pursue: Peace through negotiation. Now! Yes, now, while there is yet time.

ED. BLAIN.

Hanna.

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EDMONTON, ALBERTA

People's Weekly

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PROVINCIAL BUDGET

THE Alberta legislature has before it a budget that provides for a total expenditure of \$102 millions in the fiscal year 1951-52. It is by far the biggest budget in the province's history and it reflects the tremendous change that has taken place in the economy of the province. Actually, government expenditures will be \$113 millions; counting the money received from the federal government for old age pensions, health grants and other services part of the cost of which is borne by Ottawa.

Of interest to the ordinary citizen is the reduction of automobile licence fees. There will be a reduction of \$10 in most cases. But there won't be any saving to the car owner. The increase of one cent per gallon in the gasoline tax will amount to well over a million dollars, offsetting the \$700,000 cut in licence fees. However, the wiping out of the one cent a gallon tax for farm and industrial fuel oil will almost equal the increase in the gasoline tax. The farmer will pay a cent less for the fuel for his tractor, a cent more for what he uses in his truck and automobile. The only justification the government has given for the gas tax increase is that it brings the Alberta tax up to that of the neighboring provinces.

Assistance is to be given to municipalities from a fund to be made up of forty per cent of the amount collected from the gasoline tax. The municipal assistance scheme is obviously aimed to get the approval of the individual municipal ratepayer. Assistance to the municipality is to be conditioned on a reduction of taxation. Municipalities which do not need to increase their spending to provide the services the people need will get a grant of up to 3½ mills and the taxpayers will benefit accordingly. But the municipal districts which need more money with which to get new services may only raise and spend it by sacrificing the grant.

The worst feature of the municipal assistance proposal is the budgetary control imposed by the provincial government on the municipalities. If the federal government tried to impose any similar control over the provincial budget, as a condition of the federal grants, the provincial government would be indignant.

UNCONSCIOUS HUMOR

ALBERTA'S new Minister of Telephones, who brings to his job a large amount of youthful enthusiasm, gave the legislature a comprehensive report of the work of his department in his speech on the budget. Mr. Taylor is very proud of his department. He has reason to be. Alberta Government Telephones is a modern and highly efficient telephone system.

In one section of his speech; as reported in the newspapers, Mr. Taylor really waxed eloquent in describing the new cordless long distance board in the exchange at Edmonton. Alberta's is the only telephone system in Canada with this great new improvement in telephone efficiency and the Minister quite properly lauded to the skies the initiative and foresight which had brought this new wonder to the Alberta system.

Of course the unconscious humor of Mr. Taylor's claims never dawned on the Social Credit members of the legislature, as they applauded the Minister's statements. Did they forget, for a moment, that such initiative and foresight as that so eloquently praised by Mr. Taylor was only to be found in private enterprise?

Oh yes, there was another thing. The wonderful new equipment, which Alberta Government Telephones had the foresight and initiative to acquire before any other telephone system in Canada, was made in England!

"LITTLE THINGS"

SOME years ago when the then lone C.C.F. member of the Alberta legislature was pressing the government for greater assistance for the widows of the province who were with their orphaned families trying to exist on the mothers' allowance, a cabinet Minister chided him for spending so much time on little things.

Well, it seems that the C.C.F. members of the present legislature are still at it, busying themselves with some "little things". One of these "little things" has to do with industrial widows. Each time down through the years when the Workmen's Compensation Act has been amended to provide a higher payment for widows, the new amendments have applied only to accidents which occurred after the amendment was passed. Thus while women, whose husbands have been killed since 1948 get \$50 per month, those who became widows before that date get \$40, or \$35, depending on the provisions of the Act at the time their husbands were killed.

The injustice of such a situation is obvious. If the widow of a man killed since 1948 requires \$50 a month to live, surely a woman who became a widow before that year requires an equal amount.

THE THIRD COLUMN

HE DOESN'T LIKE P.R.

The Albertan, March 9:

"The minister of municipal affairs, Mr. G. E. Gerhart, is reported to have said he would like to see Calgary's system of proportional representation in municipal politics 'fade away'. We haven't heard his arguments, but they had better be good."

"P.R." is the nearest approach to government by the people since the days of the first democracies.

"Mr. Gerhart doesn't like P.R. in Calgary municipal politics. What does he think of it in provincial politics? Is he in favor of helping it 'fade away' there? We can only gather that he is."

"He knows, of course, that only the cities of Calgary and Edmonton have P.R. in provincial elections, and only these two constituencies elected any Opposition members in the last election. The Opposition is small, consisting only of two C.C.F.ers, two Liberals and an Independent (with two or three maverick Social Crediters now in Opposition ranks too). Without P.R. there would be no Opposition at all."

"Is that what Mr. Gerhart would prefer? The only practical effect of eliminating P.R. anywhere is the reduction or elimination of minority groups in elected bodies, and that means reducing or eliminating critics of the governments."

"Alberta would profit from more, not less, P.R."

LAUGHABLE AS INVASION FORCE!

Joseph C. Harsch,

in Christian Science Monitor:

"In the event of war, the Pentagon planners want a West European defence force of 60 to 70 divisions (about one-fifth American) because while it is possible to punish Russia by air and sea power, there must still be at least a small ground force to hold a line."

"The theory is to bring so much air and sea power to bear upon Russia itself that it never will be able to project more than a small proportion of the Red Army westwards. But there has to be something on the ground to hold a line somewhere or even 10 Russian divisions could conquer Europe. The ground army is intended to do in Europe what General Ridgway's 8th Army has done in Korea against vastly greater numbers of Chinese ground troops—namely, take care of those who manage to run the gauntlet of sea and air power."

"But no general at the Pentagon today thinks of conducting any 'offensive' against Russia, not with the kind of ground troops they are talking about. They say they would want about 400 divisions to invade Russia, and would hesitate even if they had that many. They are hoping to get a combined West European defence force of 70 divisions. It would be laughable as an invasion force against Russia."

"But as a stopper for what gets past our air force, it has considerable meaning. That is the function the planners have in mind for the ground forces."

FOOTPRINTS

By J. P. GRIFFIN



"The hopes of the downtrodden will not always be disappointed."

As has been mentioned before, the prime objective of the C.C.F. is to bring the robbery of the people by Big Business (or Big Business to its earliest possible conclusion).

Men long ago learned that robbery with violence was too seldom successful to be attractive as a "Way of Life." But robbery without violence can be made into a most profitable undertaking, especially when conducted under the benevolent protection of organized government. We are now witnessing in Canada an unholy alliance between governments and industry which, with one honorable exception, has as an inevitable result, an ever-increasing cost of goods and services for every consumer in the Dominion.

Under the name of a "National Cheese Week" the federal government is currently directing the squandering of thousands of dollars in costly advertising to make Canadians "cheese conscious." Wealthy people are mostly in a position to gratify their whims whenever the whim strikes them. If their whim is for cheese, they have both the whim and the money, and the one takes care of the other. If they are "car conscious," they buy a car, if "home conscious," a home. Desire and satisfaction go along happily hand in hand.

How different with those of moderate means! Whim and desire with them are severely rationed luxuries, only to be gratified under the strictest necessity. Whim and desire are not to them an automatic introduction to satisfaction, quite the contrary, they

often create a sense of frustration, of resentment, and sometimes of despair. The organized activities of monopoly enterprise makes thousands of Canadians "cost-of-living conscious" enough without the added insult of dangling other commodities before their eyes by various mediums of expensive advertising.

To lessen the threat of robbery with violence, we maintain a vigilant police force which is, by and large, for the people and against the robber. To encourage the practice of robbery without violence, we maintain an assortment of Liberals, Conservatives, and Social Crediters who are, by and large, for the robbers and against the people. Every arbitrary increase in profits brings the fingers of the robbers in contact with his victim's money, every dictatorial cut in the price of primary products silently flights away the producer's dollars. If a thief breaks into your home you can call for, and obtain, police protection, but when, by means of industrial manipulation of the market, the financial security of your home is threatened, you will call on the politicians in vain. Have they not been already hired by the highest bidders?

Would not governments be better advised to see to it that Canadians had the money to supply the needs of which they are conscious instead of adding further items to an already unattainable list? But this would interfere with the robber relationship in which they have such childlike trust, and we who trusted them, have therefore to pay the price of our own folly.

Timely Topics

By William Irvine
Director of C.C.F. Organization.

SUBSIDIZING THE POWER COMPANY

Our provincial government has appointed in the Speech from the Throne that money from the public treasury will be made available for farmers to borrow. But such money will not be available for

farm purposes, it must go to the Calgary Power Company for electricity. Farmers who borrow under this arrangement will probably be glad of the opportunity. By borrowing they will

probably get electric power a few years sooner than they otherwise would. That is all to the good, but that is not the whole story. The farmers will probably have to pay interest on the money they borrow and the Calgary Power Company will secure more profitable customers.

The Calgary Power Company

has a virtual monopoly of all power available for rural use. It should be able to provide power to any farmer who will borrow under this lending arrangement without any extra cost to the customer. If private enterprise was as efficient as the hydro-electric commission of Ontario, power would be thus provided. But it is not efficient because profit and not service is its first consideration. And so to bolster up an effete private enterprise the Alberta government provides public money to ensure the profits of the power company and does so under the pretence that it is in the interests of the farmers that this is being done.

It is probably true that only by some such method will many farmers ever get the power. That fact may be a good excuse for the action. Nevertheless it is the most senseless method ever adopted by any government in any country to distribute electrical power. In fact, it is as fantastic as the Social Credit theory by which the government gained office.

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Woodsworth House, 10140 - 107 Street, Edmonton.

I hereby apply for membership in the "Friends of the People's Weekly Club" and in doing so, pledge that I will

- Undertake to contribute an amount not less than 50 cents per month; or—
- Secure four new subscribers to the People's Weekly at \$2.00 per year.

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(Sign this and return to the above address)

New Books and Pamphlets

The Literature Committee of the C.C.F. reminds readers that a number of new booklets and pamphlets are being added to those already on hand.

Facts About C.C.F. Government in Saskatchewan (Price 10 cents) gives a most interesting picture of increased benefits obtained by the people through the C.C.F. Here, for 10 cents, are the facts and figures which every C.C.F.-er should have.

Wanted: Vital Religion in Politics (Price 5 cents) is a handy pocket-size little booklet by Dr. L. J. Donaldson which, to quote P. F. Moriarty, 25 years secretary of the Y.M.C.A., "is most insistent in showing that Christian principles, when applied, contain the only sound basis for an economic system". Dr. Donaldson's subtitle for the pamphlet is "C.C.F. Principles Agree With Christian Ideals".

Who Owns Canada? If you don't already own a copy of this reliable examination of the facts concerning the concentration of control and ownership of the wealth of Canada, send for one now. Price 50 cents.

European Unity (15c)—A new pamphlet which gives the British Labor Party's views on methods by which European unity should be pursued.

Planning For Freedom (Reduced from \$1.25 to 50c). Though written in 1944, the first section of this book discusses issues of vital importance today. Excellent club material.

They'll Ask You (5c) — A primer of C.C.F. questions and answers.

Who Benefits From Soaring Prices? (10 for 30c or 3 for 10c) — An attractively arranged and easily read leaflet, showing just what the soaring cost of living is doing to farmer, labor, soldier, old folks and home — and what it has done to increase monopoly profits. Send for a number of these and pass them on to your neighbors.

Comment — The new C.C.F. 15-minute facts and figures magazine. \$1.00 buys a year's subscription; single copies 10c each. This month's issue, which includes the story of the oil grab, is one you won't want to miss.

(1) Fifty Years' March — Francis Williams, \$2.00.

This is the book, recently reviewed in the P.W., by Elmer E. Roper, which tells of the rise and growth of the British Labor Party. An A1 gift for an intelligent friend!

(2) Guide to Elementary Socialism — G. D. H. Cole, 15c.

(3) The Road Ahead — Laidler, \$1.00.

A nicely bound, easily read and

understood story of the democratic socialist way of life.

(4) The Case for Socialism — Fred Henderson, 35c.

Marching On (Price 15 cents) — A magnificent story of the progress of the British Labor Party from the arrival of Keir Hardie at the House of Commons to its victory at the polls in the last general election. It is issued in pamphlet form by the Labor Party to mark Labor's year of Golden Jubilee. In its last chapter it looks to the future, and proclaims in stirring words Labor's confidence and resolve.

"We have recently repulsed the most furious assault any political Party in this country has ever sustained; before long an onslaught even more bitter, more desperate and more unprincipled will be unleashed against us. We are no more intimidated than was the Landak miner when he first rose to address the Commons, with every man's hand against him."

Still at Large, Price 15c. — This pamphlet by Michael Foot, with its satirical prologue "On Tory History" and "pen portraits" of leading figures in the Tory Party, will be of particular interest to those readers who hail from the Old Land.

Facing Facts in Formosa — 10c. Formosa and the problems revolving around that unfortunate refuge of discredited Chiang-Kai-Chek are very much in the news today.

Here is a pamphlet which gives the historical background, the present conditions and the significance of this island for peace or war in a factual straightforward way. A limited supply has been ordered by this office. Place your order now!

Tragedy in Africa — 10c.

"There is rising in Africa (the non-European people of South Africa) hearts a hatred of the white man and his ways, which, for anyone not blind to the lessons of history, is terrible to contemplate." This quotation indicates the subject matter of this well-written report of unhappy and dangerous existing conditions in South Africa. A limited supply, order now.

New Horizons (10c) — by Prof. Frank Scott.

For clarity of thought, for its comprehensive sweep of both the doctrinal and practical fields of action, for its emphasis on the necessity of adjustment if the socialist purpose is to be effective in a social environment in which changes are constantly taking place and, above all, for the thread of a socialist democratic purpose, which runs clearly throughout, this pamphlet is unsurpassed in Canadian Socialist literature.

Order now!

Ro Facing Facts in Formosa — We've just received word that this is on the press now for a reprint. Will not be available for a month or six weeks.

Crisis in Japan (30c) — U.D.C. This deals with an important

Liesemer Is Guest At C.C.Y.M. Banquet

Approximately twenty-five young people attended the C.C.Y.M. banquet given in honor of Mr. A. J. E. Liesemer, C.C.F. M.L.A. of Calgary, on March 9, at Woodsworth House, Edmonton. Mr. Liesemer is the C.C.F. advisor to the C.C.Y.M. and in his after-dinner speech he told of the reorganization of the C.C.Y.M. in Alberta in 1948 after one of his former pupils told the foresight to realize that such a group was needed. That person was B. Smith, who is now provincial president of the C.C.Y.M. He went on to tell of the plans to form a C.C.Y.M. summer camp. He gave an outline drawn up by Dr. Liebe of Lethbridge of how such a camp could be formed. A short discussion of this followed. "Carroll Wenas was master of ceremonies."

Excellent Dinner

The table was set with white linen tablecloths, vases of spring flowers, and silver candlesticks. The place settings were offset by green and yellow streamers. The dinner was served by candlelight. Roast beef and Yorkshire pudding was on the menu served up by chief cook, George Milner.

Following dinner Doug Trace, with his guitar, led a sing-song. Later, bridge and canasta were played with prizes going to the winners. Ladies' high, Mrs. George Evans; Men's high, L. Taylor; consolation-prizes went to Mr. and Mrs. E. Ingram. In canasta Miss Eileen Scott and Mr. T. D. Robertson were the winners.

Thanks — are extended to the Misses Helen Anderson, Betsy Anderson, Joyce Seass, Mrs. George Evans, Messrs. Carroll Wenas, George Milner and Doug Trace who were responsible for making the evening such a success.

John A. Wickens Is Deeply Mourned

The sudden death of John A. Wickens left a vacancy hard to fill in Calgary C.C.F. ranks.

Born in Tupperville, Ontario, he came west to the Cayley district, where he farmed until his retirement to Calgary. His industry and wisdom gained him widespread respect in both business and civic circles.

He solved the retirement problem by devoting his energy to service; any hour of the day or night, Jack and his car were on call for the C.C.F. whether it was collecting pies for the Stampede booth or taking a collector on membership drive. Jack was always available.

The many letters received by the family show how extensive were his ways of helpfulness. The sick and infirm and anyone in trouble, always depended on him. He will be greatly missed. — F.W.

To Broadcast Oil Script Elsie Gowan

A script by Elsie Gowan exploring the potential of Canada's developing oil resources will be featured on the CBC's "Cross Section" program over CFRN, Edmonton, on Thursday, March 29, at 9:30 p.m.

subject — the rebuilding of the Japanese economy. The booklet outlines the effects which it may be expected to have on the Western and Eastern economies and discusses the dangers arising out of the creating of a capitalist Japanese economy and ruling class.

SET PRECEDENT IN ONTARIO LEGISLATURE



Ms. Miss Agnes Macphail, C.C.F. member for York East (Toronto), fell the privilege of being addressed for the first time in Ontario's history as Madam Speaker. Honor was bestowed upon her by Mr. Speaker M. C. Davies, who sent a note to her requesting her to take the Speaker's chair while he was absent for a few minutes from meeting. (CPA).

C.C.Y.M. FINANCIAL DRIVE

The C.C.Y.M. financial drive ends March 31st. No time to lose. Send your contribution now:

I am enclosing the sum of \$_____ as my contribution to the success of the C.C.Y.M. in Alberta.

Signed _____

Address _____

Contributions should be sent to C.C.Y.M., Woodsworth House, Edmonton.

Town Planner Dant To Speak To C.C.F.

"Town Planning as it Affects Urban Dwellers" will be his title when Edmonton's Town Planner, Noel Dant, addresses the Edmonton C.C.F. in the L.O.O.F. Hall on Tuesday, March 20.

The business meeting will commence at 8:15 p.m. with Mr. Dant speaking at nine o'clock. Floyd Johnson, president, will be in the chair.

Mrs. Moore Donates Rug To Raise Funds

Edmonton Women's C.C.F. Club entertained at a bridge party in Woodsworth House on Monday evening, to take the place of their monthly meeting. Mrs. J. E. Cook was the convener.

Prizes at bridge were awarded to Wm. Irvine, Mrs. E. East, Mrs. E. Glenn and Edsel East.

A rug made and donated to the club by Mrs. E. H. Moore was won by Mrs. T. E. Seale.

1951 CCF Members

The mailing of your 1951 C.C.F. membership cards has been delayed due to inadvertent late delivery by the National Office. They are going out to members now, as rapidly as possible.

Saskatchewan Legal Aid Best In Canada

OTTAWA (CPA) — The Saskatchewan system of free legal aid to persons unable to pay for it, is said to be the best of its kind in the country.

That opinion was delivered by no less an authority than the council of governing bodies of all provincial law societies in Canada, and they ought to know.

Put your 1951 C.C.F. membership in the mail today.

IN MEMORIAM William G. Urquhart

On February 16th William Gordon Urquhart, pioneer of the Islay district, passed away suddenly at his home in Vermilion to which on medical advice he had retired from his farm home in 1946.

For many years Mr. Urquhart was the President of the Alexandra C.C.F. board. He was born in Edinburgh, Scotland, almost 69 years ago and homesteaded in the Islay district. He came to Alberta in 1901 and took up his homestead in 1905.

He was chairman of the Islay Hospital Board for many years and he served his district as Pool Director.

Man of High Ideals

"Those who had the privilege of serving under him will always remember him as a man of progressive ideas and as a man whose quiet, gentle nature was always inwardly governed by an ironclad determination to live to the line in all matters of truth, justice and equity. If truth had to be stated on any occasion, if he was present, it was stated by him without any equivocation."

If I might suggest one of many suitable epitaphs for such as he it is my opinion of him that the words of Christianity's first great missionary can be applied: "I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith."

In the language of his own Scots countrymen, W. G. Urquhart was a "boonie fighter" for right against wrong.

The funeral service was held at St. Saviour's Anglican Church, Vermilion. The Rev. T. R. Cathcart, of Clondalton, officiated.

He is survived by his loving wife and three sons, Kenneth of Vermilion; Malcolm of Kingston, Ontario; and Douglas of Toronto; one grandson and one brother in Scotland.

Liesemer

(Continued from Page 1)
overall price controls;

(2) The amendment of "the provincial act respecting rent controls to make an effective instrument to prevent skyrocketing rents instead of a mere lip service gesture which it now is;

(3) The raising of the minimum wage to 85 cents an hour;

(4) The inauguration of a general 40-hour week;

(5) The provision for union security in those industries where the majority of the workers vote in favor of it;

(6) Changes in the Act whereby in any issue the majority of those voting shall decide the issue;

(7) The elimination of penalties from the Labor Act because such penalties in effect are penalties against Labor only;

(8) An offer to the federal government to withdraw provincial jurisdiction over labor relations in such industries as the meat packing business which are essentially national in their organization.

Right to Strike

He drew to the attention of the government the fact that Labor is vastly perturbed over the suggestion that some further occupations should be classed as essential and have removed from them the right to strike. "The right to strike," he explained, "is the final necessary weapon, which in the last analysis can make working people even nearly equal in strength to the employer who owns their job. Removal of the right to strike is the removal of a fundamental right of man. It is stacking the cards in favor of the employer. If this government does not want to drive labor into political action then it should not use politics to destroy their rights. This removal of the right to strike from union after union has gone much too far. The unscrupulous employer will continue to urge governments to wittle away at this

right and there will be no conclusion to it."

"The end can only be the chaos that will follow such gross injustice," he contended and called upon the government to "halt this process and maintain equity as between labor and industry as far as it is in the power of a provincial government."

"In spite of the fact that this government has claimed to be the best friend of the old age pensioners," Mr. Liesemer said, "it seems that it has fallen to the lot of the C.C.F. to be the only group consistently urging upon this House those specific things which should be done. This year, I want to make a plea, as I have ever since I have been in this House, that free drugs should be made available to old age pensioners."

He pointed out that there are individuals to whom, in their declining years, expensive drugs are essential to the continuance of life. Out of their small pension they cannot buy these because food is more immediately necessary. "I have no doubt that there are individuals who have gone to an early grave than they would have if the government had long ago acceded to this reasonable request," he added, "I have heard," it suggested that old people will make a racket of the drugs. Few would suppose that would could be prevented from doing so by requiring a doctor's prescription. It is as simple as that."

Mr. Liesemer asked the government to give the same consideration to Old Age Pensioners in accredited nursing homes that they give to pensioners in hospitals. Further he pointed out that it would be both good economy on the part of the government and an humane act on behalf of old people to provide a building in which incurables and old people for whom there is no hospital available, can be economically and adequately cared for

because they are in one convenient location.

He explained that when old age pensioners are in the hospital, bills are paid. "When, however, the hospital becomes overcrowded, or where the illness requires a lesser degree of care, they are sent to a nursing home. Here the pension is swallowed up and when pensioners are released they are destitute."

"Again in the budget debate Mr. Liesemer expressed considerable disappointment that the Minister of Industry and Labor gave no indication in that debate that the government intended to open the labor act this year, to meet some of the requests of organized labor. He pointed out that if the minister was looking for a reason for the action of the Industrial Federation of Labor of Alberta in refusing to attend the 1951 Management-Labor conference, he need look no further than his own inaction this year and last."

Press For

(Continued from page 1)

ister of Public Utilities in Manitoba, the C.C.F. Leader showed that 22,000 farms had already been electrified in that province with 5,000 more to be connected in 1951. The total in Alberta is 11,000.

Dr. Robinson, replying for the government, expressed satisfaction with the progress being made in Alberta under private ownership. He said the rate in Alberta for 147 kw, the average amount used on Manitoba farms, was only \$5.44 compared with \$5.94 in Manitoba.

\$1,000 for Power Line

In rebuttal to this claim the C.C.F. Leader showed that the Alberta farmer must pay an average of \$1,000, for construction of the power line. The Manitoba farmer pays nothing. At the low interest rate of 3 per cent the cost of the power line is \$2.50 per month, making the Alberta rate \$7.24 compared with \$5.94 in Manitoba. (Actually the difference is greater because there is a 10 per cent discount in Manitoba for prompt payment of bills.)

The C.C.F. motion was overwhelmingly defeated. The Liberal members announced that they were voting against it as did all government members.

Labor Condemns

(Continued from page 1)

warded to the Alberta Provincial Secretary.

"The meeting noted" that Mr. Goehart, presumably in the position of Minister in charge of Civil Defence, had told a meeting of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association in Edmonton that there were 500 or 600 spies in Alberta and requested the help of the organization to "carefully study present workers and applicants for positions and suggested tagging and fingerprinting of all employees as a security safeguard."

The resolution pointed out that labor organizations had done more to expose and expel subversives than any other group in Canadian elements within their ranks.

MARSHALL PLAN

Since the Marshall Plan was launched, the United States has authorized purchases in Canada to the total of \$1,184,400,000. Of that total \$601,988,000 was used to purchase food, principally wheat, and \$582,502 for the purchase of industrial products.

Motion On Cost Living Ruled Out

OTTAWA (CPA).—Still another C.C.F. effort to change the government's mind about price control, proved futile on March 6.

Following the official announcement that the cost of living index had jumped three points during the month of February—from 172.5 to 175.2, Roy Knight (C.C.F. Saskatchewan) moved the adjournment of the House to discuss a matter of urgent public importance, namely, the announced rise in the cost of living and the consequent need to establish price control.

Mr. Speaker consulted his Standing Orders, and discovered that a motion "must not revive discussion on a matter which has been discussed in the same session." He also delved into Beauchene's third edition, which assured him that Mr. Knight's motion did not come within the definition of "urgency."

The motion was ruled out.



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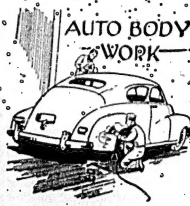
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"Aren't Prices Awful?"**Tax Deduction For Union Dues Rejected**

OTTAWA (CPA) — "Where would you draw the line?" was the plaintive plea of Parliamentary Assistant James Sinclair, in arguing against Stanley Knowles' (C.C.F. Winnipeg North Centre) resolution seeking to remove the discrimination against trade unionists which bars them from deducting union dues for income tax purposes.

"He wants to know where we would draw the line," replied

Angus MacInnis (C.C.F. Vancouver East). "As a Liberal, surely he will agree that the place to draw the line is where the same principle will apply to everybody."

That, is precisely what the present legislation does not do, Stanley Knowles pointed out. Critics, had charged that it was class legislation.

The resolution was defeated by a vote of 54 to 56, as compared with the previous vote on this issue in November, 1949, of 108-48. Among those voting for it this time were two parliamentary assistants.

Liesemer On The Budget

In The Alberta Legislature March 12**A. J. E. LIESEMER, M.L.A.**

propaganda isn't too effective, or widespread.

Completely Immoral

This government claims to be Christian. It may claim to have a monopoly on Christianity. It may even succeed in getting a majority of people to believe this. But that cannot alter the fact that its action in using any public funds for party purposes is completely and utterly immoral. I suggest to the government, even if it is not worried about the moral justification of its position, that it could very well forego what little benefit it gets and remove the last vestige of basis for this kind of criticism which we made against the old Social Credit Board and which, unfortunately, we still have to make against the Department of Economic Affairs.

Value of Opposition

Finally, I wish to make reference to that portion of the Budget dealing with aid to municipalities. We commended the government upon this decision. I think here is another example of the value of an Opposition. For years my colleague, Mr. Roper, and I, have been hammering away at the government to do this very thing. We promised, as we have in many other things, to keep hammering away until the government yielded. Finally the government has yielded. Had the people elected a C.C.F. government of course they would have had this municipal aid years ago. Because they elected even a small C.C.F. Opposition they are getting it now. I have two things to say in this matter.

Not Getting Enough

First, I wish to state emphatically that the cities, particularly the City of Calgary, are not getting enough. The cities themselves have long admitted that in such things as grants to schools, while they felt they were not getting their fair share, that they were not entitled to an exact proportion with rural areas because of the fact that they had the right to tax businesses in the cities which were

earning their living by business done in the surrounding country. However, the very basis of these new grants is a recognition of the fact that municipalities generally have been burdened with obligations which their tax base could not permit them to pay.

Many of these burdens are burdens directly imposed by the provincial government, and since 1935, when this present government came into existence, municipalities have had more and more expense thrust upon them by Social Credit. Consequently in this new grant the cities should be treated approximately on the same basis as any other municipality, and if that were done their grants would be a great deal more than "hot air". That, again I say, is particularly true with respect to Calgary.

The second thing I wish to draw your attention is the fact that for a portion of this new grant the government is attaching a rider, that the mill rate must be frozen. This to me is both unjust and inefficient.

Not Efficient

Suppose for example a municipality wishes to increase its services and the people were quite willing to pay collectively for this service believing that they were getting it more cheaply or efficiently by this collective action than they could as individuals provide the same service to themselves. Under this formula suggested by the government they would either not get this service at all, or it would become prohibitively costly because they would have to pay for the increased service itself and then pay extra because they lost the grant. That does not make for efficiency.

Hyperbolic

It is unjust and undemocratic. It assumes that the voter who in a provincial election elected this government would be foolish enough in a civic election to elect extravagant councillors. There may, of course, be a good deal of truth in some such assumption, but it is an assumption that we cannot, if we believe in democracy, make. This government day in and day out preaches decentralization, yet almost every day it centralizes more and more authority in its own hands. It preaches one thing and acts another. In my vocabulary that is hyperbolic. This government is once more whittling away at a very fundamental British concept of democracy—the right of local self-government.

A federal or a provincial government can make grants of money without destroying democracy. I call upon this government to live up to its boasts, to make these grants to municipalities without any conditions that tend to destroy local self-government.

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Personal Stuff

(Continued from page 1)
blunder" for the Chinese to turn down the cease fire proposals made by the United Nations committee.

In the meantime the slaughter goes on. It is not making anyone very happy. One of the most influential publications in the United States, in its current issue says that although the great mass of the American people were behind their government in pressing for the declaration of China as an aggressor, they were genuinely distressed over the killing of Chinese soldiers. That may appear like a strangely paradoxical attitude. Actually it is not at all strange as it seems. The American people quite definitely do not hate the Chinese as the people of a nation usually hate an enemy with which they are at war. The contrary is so. Generally speaking the people of this continent have a great affection for the Chinese people. This warm feeling towards the Chinese has been developed in two ways. Canadians and Americans who have gone to China, for business purposes or as teachers or missionaries, have promptly fallen in love with the people. And the Chinese who have come to this country, have become good citizens, earning the respect and friendship of all who take the trouble to know them. My own experience with Chinese friends has been a happy one. They're grand people.

So it is definitely true that except for a very small minority, the people of the United States and Canada would welcome with great rejoicing any sort of a reasonable

end to the Korean slaughter. They would welcome the end of the killing and maiming of their own boys, of course. But there is a two-fold reason why they'd like to see conflict with China come to an end. Next to their sorrow over American and other U.N. casualties is the genuine feeling of sadness over the mass killing of Chinese, however necessary that may seem while war continues. And now that it is apparent that a stalemate is the only likely outcome, there will be a greater than ever desire for the negotiation of a settlement. And surely the Chinese leaders, and the Chinese people if they could know all the facts, must also be reaching the conclusion that the alternative of agreement is continued slaughter, continued dissipation of precious resources that are needed in China. We have no means of knowing how active the "good offices" committee of the United Nations is in exploring the possibilities of new negotiations. It is to be hoped that they can accomplish something soon.

The devastation which is being wrought by bombs from the air and shells from the sea in Korea is saddening. How much more satisfying it would be if we had a part in a project which would involve spending an equal amount of money for things that would make the Koreans happy. God grant we may yet have, and take, the change to do that. We're making the Koreans and other Asians, hate and fear us now. How could it be otherwise as death and destruction descend upon them from our planes and ships? And all this while the men in the Kremlin sit back and gloat. But they may not have so long to

laugh. The Chingse are anything but fools. It won't take them too long to realize that they are expendable pawns in a dirty game. We can hope they already realize it sufficiently to be ready to reach an honorable agreement to end the Korean slaughter if the opportunity is given. And if such an agreement should be in prospect the peace-desiring people on this continent (one is almost afraid to use such a term these times because of the way it has been perverted), must make their influence felt in favor of a peaceful settlement.

Liberals Under

(Continued from page 1)

But the government knew it would have to face the fury sometime, and Mr. Howe informed the Speaker he had "no objection" when J. A. Ross (P.C. Souris) began the attack. So following Mr. Ross, Agriculture Minister Gardiner read a lengthy prepared statement on the history of the U.K.-Canadian wheat negotiations.

Failed to Convince
"Mr. Gardiner's contention that the United Kingdom was at fault in not making a further \$55 million payment on the wheat contract failed miserably to convince the C.C.F."

Anyhow, quite aside from the British aspect of the situation, the C.C.F. intended to hold the government to its promise that compensatory adjustment should be made to wheat farmers for the rise in production costs and in the cost of living index.

Percy Wright (C.C.F. Melton) quoted Mr. Gardiner as saying in the House on August

15, 1946, that "\$200 million was being provided for the purpose of taking care of any adjustments in connection with what might be known as parity on other farm products," and that, at the same time, "similar arrangements would be made if necessary, through the wheat board, in connection with grain."

Mr. Wright continued, "The Minister gave this House an assurance that should the cost of production of wheat continue to rise, some compensatory adjustment would be made by this government—not by the British government—to take care of that increased cost." He pointed out that in 1947-48, the purchasing value of the wheat dollar was 97 cents; today it is only 71 cents. And the cost of living index has jumped from 121 in 1946 to 175.2 today.

C.C.F. Sub-Amendment

So Mr. Wright moved a sub-amendment to the Conservative amendment (which had called for a recorded House opinion on the "misleading" of the wheat contract), stating that in the opinion of the House "consideration should be given to a final payment of twenty-five cents per bushel." Then followed a battle of procedure as to whether the motion was in order, with Mr. Speaker and Mr. Stanley Knowles of the C.C.F. matching references on the legality. Mr. Knowles won. The motion will be voted on.

But the donnybrook which preceded Percy Wright's amendment is worthy of note. Mr. Gardiner maintained that the \$2 price agreed upon by Britain and Canada was final for the third year of the contract, and the same price was set for the fourth year with a provision that if world prices fell below \$2, the British government would pay additional compensation to be negotiated at the end of the year. Mr. Gardiner admitted that wheat in most markets did not drop below \$2, until the international wheat agreement, governing all wheat transactions, set a world price of \$1.80. Britain's final fourth year payment was actually \$2.05—25 cents above the world price, providing \$35 million toward compensation for the lower prices in earlier years. The final year of the British contract also coincided with the

first year of the international wheat agreement, and Britain's additional compensation to Canada under the "have regard" clause was "to take more wheat from Canada than she had any obligation to under the international arrangement: 120 million bushels instead of the usual 90.

U.K. Fulfilled Obligations

On June 5, 1950, Mr. Howe (Trade Minister) had reported to the House that during his discussions in London, "The United Kingdom government had taken a strong position that they had fulfilled all obligations under that clause and so far as the United Kingdom was concerned, We agreed on behalf of Canada, that, considering all the circumstances that was the case."

Which Story to Tell?

Mr. Gardiner interrupted, saying Hansard's report of Mr. Howe's statement was incorrect. There should be no period, he said, in the middle of the sentence, and without this punctuation the meaning was different. He said the correct wording could be found in unrevised Hansard. Mr. Caldwell declared the meaning was the same either way, and pointed out that revised Hansard is the official record. "It is not the fault of the hon. member if the Minister again corrects revised Hansard... who revises unrevised Hansard except the minister or his office? No one."

Subsequent production of both unrevised and revised Hansard revealed that both copies read the same. So it still remains for Mr. Gardiner and Mr. Howe to make up their minds which story to tell, if they want to make it unanimous.

Criticize

(Continued from page 1)

how War Assets Corporation had sold \$200-million worth of property for less than \$54 million. Now we are in the position of having to build again the barracks and other buildings we disposed of less than five years ago.

Mr. Nesworthy went on to quote figures from the Financial Post which showed that defence spending in recent weeks and months had been concentrated almost entirely in Ontario and Quebec. He called for a more even distribution of defence contracts across the country.

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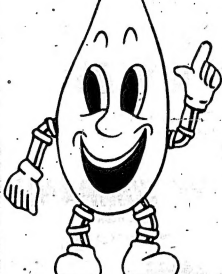
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